

(d) The draft Fifth Plan embodies policies and programmes which are designated to raise the consumption standards of the poorer sections of the population. The various steps taken in this direction include (1) stepping up of plan outlay from year to year, (2) placing special emphasis on development of agriculture, village and small industries, animal husbandry, dairying, fishing, etc., (3) adoption of special programmes for small and marginal farmers, landless labour, etc., (4) introduction of land reforms, (5) special programmes for drought-prone areas, (6) extension of social services and welfare programmes, (7) strengthening and enlargement of the public procurement and distribution system, etc.

The recently introduced 20 point programme, in addition, seeks to ascertain programmes of special significance to the poorer and weaker sections of the population and to implement such welfare measures with a greater sense of urgency and dynamism.

Curb on excess production and Foreign remittances

1326. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present legal provisions are not enough to suitably punish and curb excess production and foreign remittances made by Foreign owned companies; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to amend the law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b). With a view to making the existing penal provi-

sions in the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act more stringent, Government propose to bring about amendments to the Act so as to deal effectively and quickly with cases of unauthorised production. In so far as remittances made by the foreign companies are concerned, Government have already enacted Foreign Exchange Regulation Act for the conservation of foreign exchange resources and proper utilisation thereof in the interests of the economic development of the country.

Threat in Indian Ocean

1327. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Naval ships are under constant aerial and electronic surveillance inside the territorial waters and open sea,

(b) whether the threat from nuclear base at Diego Garcia in the Indian ocean is a part of the sophisticated threats developing in the Indian ocean; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet these sophisticated threats in the Indian Ocean?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) There have been instances of aerial (and presumably electronic) surveillance of our Naval ships by foreign aircraft in international waters but not within our territorial waters.

(b) and (c). Government are aware of the development of Diego Garcia as a Naval and Air base which would allow sophisticated ships and aircraft to operate therefrom. The Government's concern at the development of foreign bases in the Indian Ocean has been made known to all concerned and all possible steps to strengthen our Naval defence are also being taken.